# CLARIFICATION NOTES ON TWO FABRICIAN CHRYSOMELID TYPE SPECIMENS (COLEOPTERA: CHRYSOMELIDAE)

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## Abstract

The status of the type specimens cited for *Phyllotreta bipustulata* (Fabricius) and *Phyllotreta striolata* (Fabricius) is clarified.

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## Notes on *Crioceris bipustulata* Fabricius

While checking the types of *Phyllotreta* Chevrolat for my current revision of this genus, I borrowed from the Universitetets Zoologiske Museum of Copenhagen the "type" of *Crioceris 2 pustulata* Fabricius (Fig. 1), given by Zimsen (1964:105) as coleopteran number 1604. This specimen is cited as the type of *Phyllotreta bipustulata* (F.), but it proved to be a species of the genus *Zeugophora* Kunze.

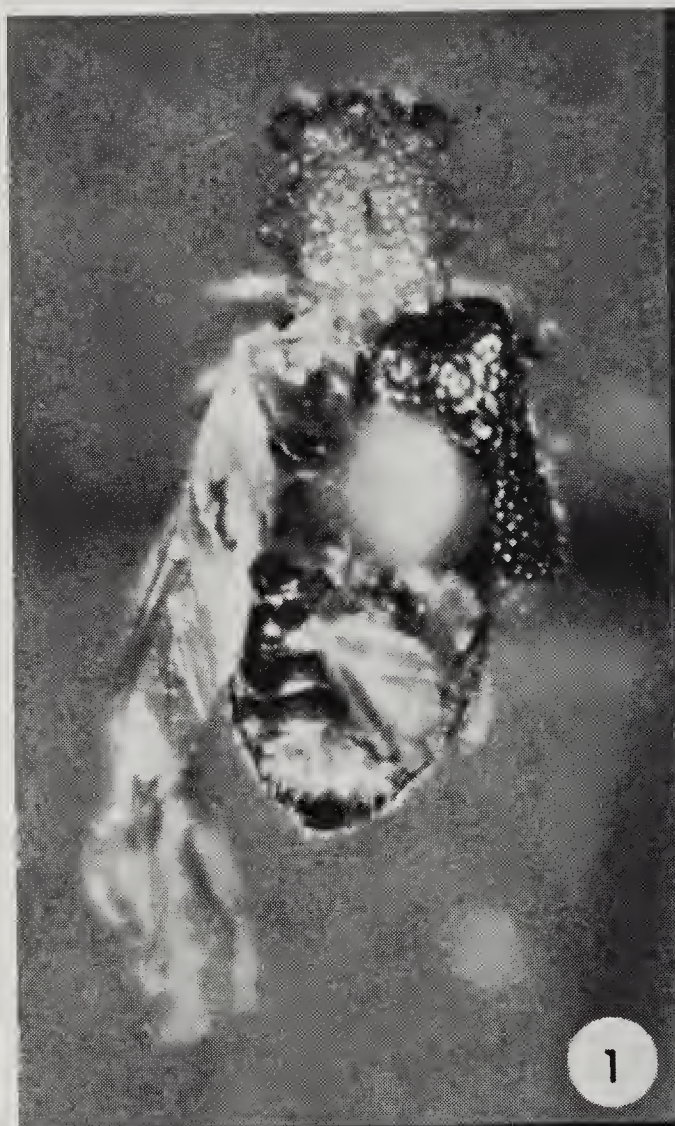
Fabricius' original description (1801a:464, species 73) agrees with what we presently call *P. bipustulata* and so does Olivier's redescription of the Fabrician type (1808a:723-724), with the exception that both authors describe the elytral pale subapical mark as "lunatis" or crescent-shaped. This color pattern description best fits the color variant of *P. striolata* (Fabricius) described as *P. s. discendens* by Weise. However, Olivier's illustration of this specimen (1808b:pl. 5, fig. 97) shows that the apex of this mark is not incurved toward the suture, and this specimen therefore matches *P. bipustulata* as presently understood.

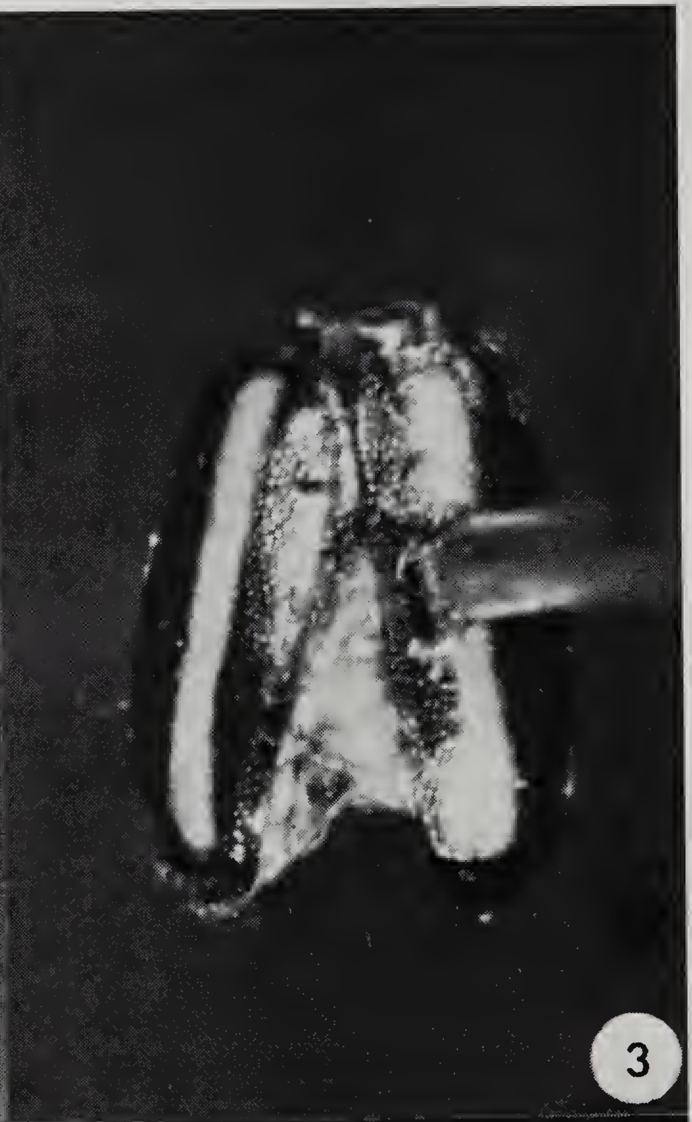
Clavareau in the Junk Catalogue (1913:52) indicated that Fabricius (1801b:40, species 56) also described another species, using the same specific name, in the genus *Clytra*. Clavareau lists this species as being in doubt. The Fabrician original description of *Clytra bipustulata* does not fit either *P. bipustulata* or the "type" sent. Unfortunately, Olivier does not treat *Clytra bipustulata* in his Entomologie. Although there is no check on the identity of this specimen, it does not appear to be involved in the present problem.

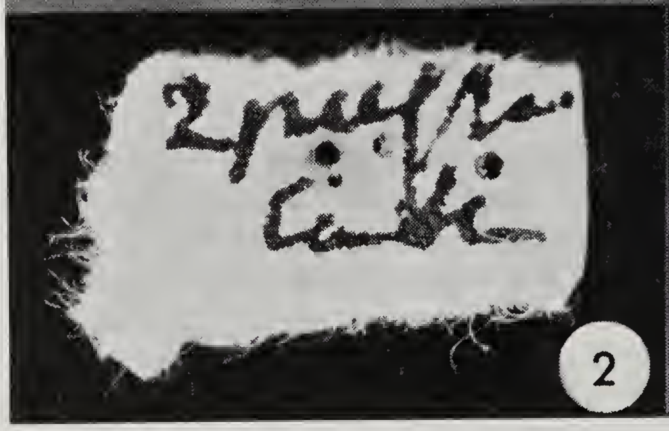
The type locality is given as "Carolinae" and the location of the type as in the Bosc Collection. This suggests that the type locality be restricted to near Charleston, South Carolina (see Blake 1952). Blake (1952) did not find *Crioceris bipustulata* in the Bosc Collection, but she did comment that all specimens were in good condition because "probably all specimens that were not had long since been discarded." The specimen sent from Copenhagen was accompanied by Fabricius' determination label (Fig. 2), a torn piece of light-brown paper with "2 pustulata" written in black ink. There were no other data. This specimen is from the Kiel Collection, which was Fabricius' personal collection, and it is therefore probably not the type specimen he referred to as being in the Bosc Collection.

Based on the "type" sent, the original description, and Blake's observations, it is most probable that the type of *Crioceris bipustulata* F. (1801a:464) has been lost and that this Fabrician determination label has been erroneously associated with another chrysomelid specimen.[1] However, to help eliminate the possibility that the type was still in the collection but unlabeled or mislabeled, I sent a specimen to Sv. G. Larsson and he checked the Fabrician Collection for any similar specimens, but none was found (Larsson 1973). The designation of a neotype has been postponed until the publication of my Ph.D. dissertational revision (Smith 1973).

[1] The "type" sent (female) belongs in the genus *Zeugophora* and is very near *Z. scutellaris* Suffrian. Suffrian's original description (1840:99) fits this specimen except that it is slightly shorter than the stated length and the elytron part present (left and apical half of the right are missing) is brownish black instead of black, and has a metallic luster. However, this specimen does fit within the size range and coloration, except for the metallic luster, of 21 Nearctic specimens of this species which were examined for comparative purposes. Additionally, in running this "type" through Crowson's 1946 key to world *Zeugophora*, it best keys out to *Z. scutellaris.*







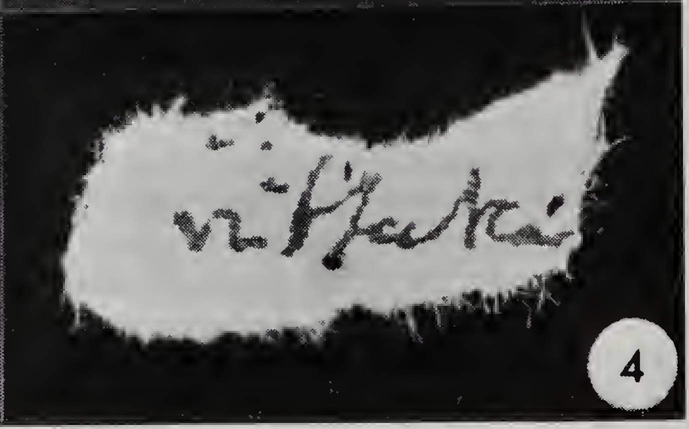


Fig. 1. "Type" of *Crioceris 2 pustulata.*

Fig. 2. Fabrician determination label accompanying "type" of *C. 2 pustulata.*

Fig. 3. "Type" of *Crioceris vittata.*

Fig. 4. Fabrician determination label accompanying "type" of *C. vittata.*

### NOTES ON *Crioceris vittata* FABRICIUS

I also borrowed (Fig. 3) the "type" of *Crioceris vittata* Fabricius (1801a:469, species 95); given by Zimsen (1964:105) as coleopteran number 1618. This specimen is cited as the type of *Phyllotreta striolata* (F.); for type clarification see Barber (1947:156-157). However, the specimen sent is not a *Phyllotreta* but, based on my experience (Smith 1970), is most probably *Systena elongata* (Fabricius).

This female specimen has the head and prothorax missing and thus, until the female genitalia are studied, further confirmation of identity is not possible. Fabricius' original description agrees with what we presently call *P. striolata* but, unfortunately, Olivier (1808a, 1808b) did not review and/or illustrate this species when he reworked the Fabrician Collection, so there is no check. The differences between the Fabrician description of *C. vittata* and *S. elongata* are: 1) the size is given as somewhat small (length of *P. striolata* is 1.8-2.6 mm), whereas *S. elongata* (length 2.8-3.9 mm) is of moderate size for a flea beetle; and 2) the elytral stripe is given as incurved toward the suture basally and apically, but not touching apically, whereas in *S. elongata* the stripe is straight basally and only very slightly incurved apically at most.

The type locality of *C. vittata* is given as "Carolinae" and the location as in the Bosc Collection, which suggests that the type locality be restricted to the vicinity of Charleston, South Carolina (see Blake 1952). Blake (1952) did not find *C. vittata* in the Bosc Collection, but she did comment that all specimens were in good condition because "probably all specimens that were not had long since been discarded." The specimen sent from Copenhagen was accompanied by Fabricius' determination label (Fig. 4), a torn piece of light-brown paper with "vittata" written in black ink. There were no other data. This specimen is from the Kiel Collection, which was Fabricius' personal collection, and it is therefore probably not the type specimen he referred to as being in the Bosc Collection.

Based on the "type" sent, the original description, and Blake's observations, it is most probable that the type of *Crioceris vittata* F. (1801a:469) has been lost and that this Fabrician determination label has been erroneously associated with this specimen of a different species of striped flea beetle. However, to help eliminate the possibility that the type was still in the collection but unlabeled or mislabeled, I sent specimens to Sv. G. Larsson and he checked the Fabrician Collection for any similar specimens, but none was found (Larsson 1973). The designation of a neotype has been postponed until the publication of my Ph.D. dissertational revision (Smith 1973).

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# STUDIES OF THE SUBTRIBE TACHYINA (COLEOPTERA: CARABIDAE: BEMBIDIINI) SUPPLEMENT B: LECTOTYPE DESIGNATION OF *MASOREUS RIDICULUS* SCHAUFUSS AND TRANSFER OF THIS SPECIES TO *POLYDERIS*

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During a recent trip to the Museum für Naturkunde an der Humboldt-Universität in East Berlin, DDR, I was able to examine the type of *Masoreus ridiculus* Schaufuss (1879:552). This supposed *Masoreus* species was described from the Antillean island of St. Thomas and was described as being 1.0 mm in length, hence the name *M. ridiculus,* as no *Masoreus* species are less than about 5.0 mm. Examination of the type, through the kindness of Fritz Hieke, showed that the "ridiculous" thing was the placement of this species in *Masoreus* or the Masoreini for that matter. The beetle is, in fact, a Tachyina (Bembidiini) of the genus *Polyderis,* and is the same species named by Bates (1884:287) five years later as *Lymnastis capito* (see Erwin, 1974:143). Therefore, I take the following action: Lectotype, female, here selected, in HUB (see above); type-locality—St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; *Masoreus ridiculus* Schaufuss = *Lymnastis capito* Bates, **new synonymy.** *L. capito* is really a *Polyderis* species and has nothing to do with *Lymnastis* as I already pointed out (Erwin, 1974). The correct name of the species from St. Thomas is now *Polyderis ridiculus* (Schaufuss), **new combination.**

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